

## Temperance Reading.

**The Drunkard's Children.**  
Early one sharp, frosty morning, the other day, a man, going early to his work, saw something lying beside a pile of boards which made him suddenly stop. He thought he saw two heads. Sure enough, there were two little heads on some leaves and straw. He kicked away the leaves with his foot, and found two small children, with their arms around each other, asleep. An old shawl covered them. The little boy opened his eyes.

"How came you here, children?" asked the man.

"We had nowhere else to sleep," said the boy.

The little girl then waked up and began to cry. "Hush, hush," he said; "don't cry." "How came you here, children?" asked the man again. "Where's your mother?" "Mother's dead," answered the boy. "Haven't you a father?" "Yes, sir," answered the boy. "Well, where is he?" asked the man. "He turned us out doors last night. He drank, and came home, and swears me out of the house, and says I and I came here," said the little boy. "Poor, dear children!" cried the man, tears running down his brown cheeks. "I see, run did it! Nothing but rum can turn a father's heart to stone, and make him turn his motherless children from the door. Yes, and I dare say rum broke your poor mother's heart."

The man took the little girl in his arms; for she was stiff and cold, and carried them both to his own warm kitchen, where his wife gave them a plenty of good breakfast.

He then went to hunt up their miserable father. He was on the floor in his own house, raving with that sickness which is the drunkard's own sickness *delirium tremens*. Once he was an industrious, healthy man; now, what a sight was he! The neighbors called him a beast. That is not fair, for the poor beasts are kind to their little ones. He was far, far below the beast. He had made himself a degraded monster. That is what strong drink does for men and boys!

**An Elegant Old Lady "Down on the Bumster."**

Riding in the cars, I heard behind me a shrill voice exclaim: "Would to God that the Maine Law could have passed fifty years ago!" We turned to find an old lady on the seat back of us venturing her wish in the midst of an earnest discussion between a Maine Law Yankee and a red-nosed member of the bottle fraternity. "Yes," continued the old lady, "fifty years ago! A husband would not have gone down to a drunkard's grave my daughters married drunkards and lived lives of sorrow, or my boys have died in jail and the madhouse. Look at me," and with something of a fire kindling up in her old eyes, she laid her bony hand upon the arm of the liquordrinker, "and see the fruit of your accursed business. I was young, and had enough of this world's goods, and my heart was full of happiness and hope. My God! sir, how they have pounced desolation into this old heart! I am often bitter, and do you wonder? Such as you robbed me of my children, and at eighty years of age, I am alone! Do you hear—alone?—And let me tell you this hand never wronged the least of God's creatures. But you, sir, have wronged me. God forgive me, but I remember the day when my home was entered by the constables and skinned of all. I remember when the Bible my mother gave me was taken away for drink. I remember the time when my first-born was laid in my arms from a drunken husband's hands, and its little life-blood ran warm into my bosom from its wounds. Why, sir," said the old woman, half rising in her seat, "in God's holy name, did you come into my house to rob and kill? Was that constitutional? I have one child living,—in the asylum—a maniac. It's all the work of your hands. There is blood there! Blood, sir! Better, sir, have a milestone around your neck than sell rum. The curse of the widow be upon you! It will follow you. The serpents you send out shall return to you and to yours. Give that bottle!"

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CONSUMPTION.

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Causing Bodily Injury or Loss of Life, at Low Rates of Premium. All injuries against

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The Travelers' Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, is the pioneer Accident Insurance Company of this country; it has a paid-up capital of half a million, with a large and increasing surplus safely invested for the security of its policyholders. It is the oldest and most reliable company of its class, and experienced underwriters. Within the past two years it has written seventy thousand policies, and promptly PAID OVER THREE THOUSAND LOSSES—including fifty-one total losses (by death)—in which the large sum of \$174,590 was rendered to the survivors of the dead in premium. Its large and successful business, notwithstanding an liberal attitude in paying losses, places it at the head of Accident Insurance Companies.

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WHEN LESSENED OR DESTROYED.

DEAFNESS.

CAUSED BY CATARRHAL AFFECTIONS.

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MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

OF BOSTON. CASH ASSETS, MAY 1, 1868, \$4,000,000.

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THE OLDEST FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE UNITED STATES.

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OF NEW YORK, CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$1,500,000.

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OF NEW YORK, CAPITAL AND SURPLUS, \$1,500,000.

PHANIX FIRE INS. CO.

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AN OREGON PAPER SAYS ENOUGH LIQUOR HAS BEEN SENT ACROSS THE MOUNTAINS TO KEEP EVERY MAN IN MONTANA DRUNK ALL DAY.

THE SUBSTANCE OF THE VERDICT OF A RECENT CORONER'S JURY ON A MAN WHO DIED IN A STATE OF INEBRIATION WAS: "DEATH BY HANGING—ROUND A RUM-SHOP."

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